



'SECONDS OUT'



LONDON EX-BOXERS ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2024 No. 615

Dear Members,

Hope you and you are all well and enjoyed the Easter break with your families.

This months Seconds Out has taken up 20 pages with some very good articles

* LEBA Award Luncheon – Features all the Award winners with some excellent photographs from our official photographer Dean Fardell. We are still getting many e-mails, texts and phone calls from members and guests to say how much they enjoyed the day which is nice to hear.

* On the Pro Scene an excellent Report from Michael Lordan on two recent first-class Fights in Saudi Arabia and UK

* Dave Hull gives us all an insight what it takes to qualify as an Amateur Judge under today's Amateur Rules.

* Round and About – by our Chairman Bob Cheeseman who rings around many of our members especially those who are ill or in care and keeps them up to date – plus it's always nice to get a friendly phone call

* Announcement of a special date on the 20th October 2024 for a tribute Lunch in the Connaught Rooms to celebrate 50 years since our Vice President John Conteh MBE won his World Title – see back page for details.

Look forward to seeing you all at this months meeting when we can enjoy each other's company where it's "Nice to Belong"

Ray

LEBA Secretary/Treasurer

The LONDON EX-BOXERS ASSOCIATION AIMS and OBJECTIVES

- ◆ To have a Meeting Place for Ex-Boxers and LEBA Members to meet monthly in London
- ◆ To Help London Ex-Boxers and LEBA Members in need and with their well being
- ◆ To raise funds to finance the Association and help our Members

to Apply for Membership contact our Membership Secretary
Kirsty Nisbet Tel 07415 882 592 E-Mail - knisbet@londonexboxers.org.uk

Why not come along to one of our Sunday Meetings held on the first Sunday of every month 11.00 - 12.00 Official Meeting (12 - 2.00 Social Meeting) at

Sports and Grill Bar

174-180 Old Street LONDON EC1V 9RQ

Nearest Tube Station - Old Street- a 5 minute walk

All Ex-Boxers (Pro or Amateur) and Boxing Fans - Will be made Welcome Where
"It's Nice To Belong"

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Joshua Dominates Ngannou in Much Anticipated Heavyweight Showdown

The Kingdom Arena in Riyadh witnessed a clash of titans on Friday March 8th 2024, as former two-time heavyweight boxing champion Anthony Joshua squared off against former UFC Heavyweight Champion Francis Ngannou in a highly anticipated 10-round bout. The bout was surrounded by anticipation, especially for Ngannou, following his narrow split decision loss against Tyson Fury last December. However, Joshua exuding confidence in the lead-up to the contest, displayed a masterful performance from the opening bell. In a display of sheer dominance, Joshua swiftly took control of the match, sending shockwaves through the arena just two minutes into the contest with a thunderous straight right hand that sent Ngannou crashing to the canvas. Despite Ngannou's renowned resilience showcased in the UFC, Joshua's precision and power proved too much to handle. As the bout progressed into the second round, Joshua continued his onslaught, sending Ngannou to the canvas twice more. The final knockdown in particular, left spectators in awe, with many heralding it as one of the most remarkable displays of skill and power witnessed in years. Reflecting on the crossover nature of the bout, there's a personal hope that such events remain an exception rather than a trend. While crossover fights generate excitement and intrigue, there's a sentiment that athletes should focus on honing their craft within their respective sports.

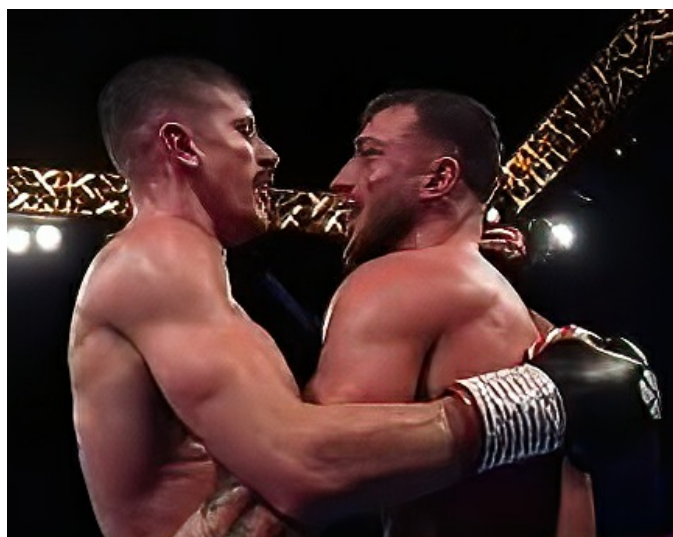


Joshua's clinical finish of Ngannou R2

Looking ahead, the spotlight now shifts to the heavyweight division's future, with the highly anticipated clash between Tyson Fury and Oleksandr Usyk scheduled to take place in the same arena on May 18th 2024. As the dust settles from Joshua's commanding victory, all eyes eagerly await the outcome of this upcoming showdown, which is poised to shape the landscape of heavyweight boxing for the foreseeable future.

A Battle to Remember: Heaney vs. Pauls for the British Middleweight Title

The British Middleweight title showdown between defending Champion Nathan Heaney and challenger Brad Pauls lived up to its hype, delivering a spectacle that showcased the essence of British boxing at its finest. With both fighters stepping into the ring with impressive records, the anticipation for this clash was eagerly awaited and they did not disappoint. From the opening bell, it was evident this would be a contest fought with intensity and skill. Heaney, the undefeated champion, demonstrated his class with accurate shots and controlled the ring with authority. However, Pauls with his 18-1-0 record, proved to be a formidable opponent, constantly pressing forward and looking for opportunities to capitalise. The momentum of the bout shifted dramatically in the eighth round when Pauls unleashed a relentless barrage of punches, leaving Heaney in a precarious position. With Heaney's gum shield knocked out, it seemed as though Pauls might secure a decisive victory. Yet displaying remarkable resilience, Heaney weathered the storm and fought back, surviving the round and regaining his composure. The eleventh round emerged as a pivotal moment in the fight, as Pauls once again had Heaney in trouble with a sustained assault. Heaney's legs wobbled under the pressure but in a display of sheer determination, he summoned his strength and landed a stunning right hand that halted Pauls' onslaught. It was a round that epitomised the heart and courage of both fighters, leaving the crowd electrified and on their feet. After twelve rounds of exhilarating action, the verdict was a split decision draw. While some may have hoped for a clear winner, the outcome reflected the closely contested nature of the bout. Both Heaney and Pauls exhibited incredible skill, resilience, and sportsmanship throughout the fight, earning them a well-deserved standing ovation from the crowd. In the end, the Heaney vs. Pauls showdown embodied the essence of British boxing - showcasing the grit, determination and skill of its competitors. For fans of the sport, it was a bout to remember, reminding us why British titles hold a special place in the hearts of boxing enthusiasts everywhere.



Heaney and Pauls embrace at the end of an epic contest.

With best wishes,
Michael Lordan
Boxing Correspondent

The Reg Gutteridge Award

Is awarded to a member of the Boxing Media and our winner this year more than qualifies for the criteria for this Award and I know that “Our Reg” would approve.

A career that started as a press secretary for an amateur Boxing Club which lasted for over six years covering hundreds of amateur contests was a good foundation to build a career in our sport and develop a lot of contacts

Now an accomplished Author with five books published and many contributions written for

- Board of Control Year Book
- Boxing News
- Boxing Monthly
- Sky Boxing
- And last but by no means least Seconds Out with really interesting stories about our Members,

Well known in Boxing Circle's in the UK and has built up a good close relationships with many boxers over quite a few generations

The Boxing Writers Club is the oldest Writers Association in our sport and has always been male dominated but a few years ago our winner was very surprised to receive an invitation to become a member in recognition of the contributions SHE has made to our sport of boxing. The first and only women ever to be invited to join this Exclusive Club All of which is a tremendous accolade but more personal to us is her dedication and love of LEBA and LEBA Members and I am very pleased to ask our very own Melanie Lloyd to come up and accept the Reg Gutteridge Award for her great contributions to our sport of Boxing



Photograph courtesy of Dan Frost

Melanie proudly holds the Reg Gutteridge Award for 2024 with her good friends Wayne, James and Maurice. Melanie was unable to attend the LEBA Award Luncheon this year so where better to present it to her than our March LEBA Meeting where she received a standing ovation from the members

LEBA AWARD LUNCHEON

Connaught Rooms London
February 2024

*Photographs in this report are courtesy of LEBA's Official Photographer
Dean Fardell – Thanks Dean*

As reported last month this years Award Luncheon was a total sellout with a full attendance of LEBA Members and their Guests. LEBA Secretary Ray Caulfield welcomed everyone and then introduced the members from other EBA's in attendance from Scotland, Midlands, Home Counties, Essex and Croydon and LEBA Member John O'Sullivan and his wife Zoha who travelled all the way from Israel to be there.

Ray then introduced the Legendary Colin Hart and the World Champions in attendance, Billy Schwer, Maurice Hope MBE, Jason Mathews, Wayne Alexander and John Conteh MBE.

Also in attendance were many other of our Champions especially on the Peacock gym table hosted by Martin Bowers that contributes greatly to the special atmosphere created in the room with the camaraderie that exists when Boxing People meet each other

Ray was then joined on stage by LEBA Chairman Bob Cheeseman in order that they could make the presentations to this year's Award Winners



Bob and Ray ready to make the presentations

Members and guests enjoying the day

The first Award was from LEBA Members to Carl Payne in appreciation for all his hard work in designing and Sculpting the Sir Henry Cooper Statue and despite all the setbacks never once gave in but unfortunately he passed away 12 months before the Statue was erected. Carl's wife Georgina and son Lief came on to the stage to receive the Award from LEBA Vice President John Conteh MBE

Carl's son Lief paid a moving tribute to his Father and explained to everyone why he wanted to make this a very special Statue to Sir Henry.



Georgina and Leif receiving Carl's Award from John Conteh MBE

Sir Henry's two sons Henry-Marco and John joined Carl's family on stage to be presented with two special framed letters to and from their father to one of Sir Henry's first amateur trainers by LEBA Member Scott Ewing who purchased it at an auction. Henry -Marco on behalf of his brother John and all the Cooper family thanked the LEBA Members for all their support in raising the funds for Statue and to telling them about how their father enjoyed being able to attend LEBA meetings and the golf days to meet up with so many boxing friends from his era.



Sir Henry's sons receiving the special framed letters from Scott Ewing

First presentations were to members Pat Gavin and Dennis Stag receiving their Lifetime Membership Certificates from former British Light Middleweight Champion Jimmy Batten



Dennis and Pat receiving their Certificates from Jimmy Batten

Giorgi Visioli received his replica Award from former British Featherweight Champion Vernon Sollas, for winning the Pat Floyd Cup the previous year as the best London Amateur Prospect. Giorgio has since turned “Pro” winning both his first two fights with sensational knockouts – a great start and we are sure he will be fighting for Titles in the next 18 months.



Giorgio receiving his Award from Vernon

The Pat Floyd Cup for London’s best amateur prospect of 2023 was presented by Derek Williams former European Heavyweight Champion to Demeij Shittu from the Five Star Boxing Club in Romford.

Demeij is 20 years old and only started boxing three years ago and as a Light Heavyweight has won

- An ABA National Title
- Silver Medal in the Tri Nations Tournament
- Boxed for England against Germany and Won

So we hope that he will win more Titles in 2024



Demeij receiving the Pat Floyd Cup

The Mancini Award – is presented annually to a member of the Boxing Fraternity who has given back to our sport as a Trainer, Cornerman or Manager – as did the Mancini Family Tony, Len and Dennie

Gina Mancini accompanied by former World Light Welterweight Champion Billy Schwer presented the Award to this year's winner Jim McDonnell

Jim was an ABA Champion and Commonwealth Games Silver medallist before turning Pro and winning the European Featherweight Title.

When his career ended, he became a trainer and a very successful one with his boxers winning Area, British, Commonwealth, European and World Titles.

The reason his Boxers won Titles was because they had an advantage over their opponents – They were fitter!! And were nearly as strong in the last round as they were in the first

Not only did Jim make his Boxers the fittest but tactically as he was always a great tactician.



Jim receiving his Award



Jim with his wife Kim and their sons Jimmy and Tom

Johnny Kent Award for the Best London Prospect in the Professional ranks for 2023 was presented by former European, Commonwealth and British Middleweight Champion James Cook MBE to George Liddard.

George had a stellar career as an amateur winning 4 National ABA titles and two Gold Medals in International competitions

Turning Pro in 2023 he has had 8 pro fights winning 4 by KO an exciting prospect with his accurate punching and aggressive style should be fighting for titles within the next 12 months



George receiving his Award

The Jack Powell Award – presented annually to a LEBA Member for Services to LEBA over many years Former World Light Middleweight Champion Maurice Hope MBE presented this years Jack Powell Award to Dominic Shepherd who received a standing ovation from the 300 members and guests present

Dominic has been a member of LEBA for over 20 years and is one of life’s “Nice Guys” who likes to stay in the background. He has always been a silent benefactor of LEBA and especially over the covid years

At his Boxing Show there was always tickets allocated for LEBA Members – and not at the back of the hall but at the front



Dominic receiving his Award

Final Award was for our Guest of Honour – James Cook MBE and his Award was presented to him by his Good Friend and former opponent Michael Watson MBE

James has been an active member of LEBA for 25 years and in 2007 for his outstanding work with young people in Hackney’s notorious “Murder Mile” he was awarded with an MBE which was presented to him by our late Queen

Crime has very much reduced in Hackney because James and his team offer an alternative to a life of crime and drugs with the Pedro Club to show them a different way to “The Gang Culture”



James receiving his Award

Last event of the day was the Raffle and John Powell read out the winning Raffle Numbers for the 15 prizes on display. The raffle again this year was another success of the day raising over £2,000 thanks to the hard work of Barbara O’Sullivan and Kirsty Nesbit working their way between tables to sell the tickets. Many thanks to them both and greatly appreciated by all.

Thank you to all our members and guests who attended and our Champions who help to make the LEBA Award Luncheon such a special day for us all each year.



Round and About for March 2024

A good start to the month for me by attending the Fisher Reunion which was a great get together, but before it started I received a message from Member Micky Brooks, a Fisher boy, Micky wanted to know more detail about the reunion and the venue, I was so pleased to hear from him as he had gone off the scene for about 18 months. Mick now suffers from heart failure and is now partially blind using a stick to help him, he said I haven't paid my dues.... Just get back here Mick, I told him.

Mick travelled down from Hull with his friend and stayed down for a couple of nights, he absolutely loved being there and we all had a great night. Very brave of you to make that journey Mick and we were all glad that you did.

Micky has a very impressive Amateur and Military boxing career behind him. Well done Micky.



Billy and Don doing a birthday breakfast



Pat O Sullivan with Member Micky Brooks

I am very pleased to say that it was Billy Airs birthday of recent and Don Austin wasted no time in collecting Bill and doing a birthday breakfast with him. Both decided to do an impression of Norman Wisdom for us.

Thank you Don, and a happy birthday Billy from all of us here at LEBA.

I hadn't seen Micky Oats for some time so this morning I gave him a call, I just wanted to find out how he was, I'm pleased to tell you that he is well, all OK. He said that he had just not been to LEBA as he wanted to rest up bit, I also ask him how Vic Moore is as well, Mick said that Vic is good but he also has to make a decision to get to us.

Mick asked me about Ronnie Smith and I told him that as far as I knew Ronnie is OK, I do get some info re Ronnie from Martin Power. I will call him soon.

I was very pleased to hear from Gary Humphries when he paid a visit to Stan Kennedy's care home obviously to visit Stan and read the latest Seconds Out to him, he said that Stan is OK but looking tired.

Gary, us at LEBA cannot thank you enough for what you do for us and Stan, I would like to think that he knows that all of us are thinking about him and that we all wish him well.



Heres Andy with Ralph and Dougie and then here is Stan with Gary

I was pleased to hear from Andy Till as well, again we havent seen him for some time, Andy has had a problem with his hip and has caused him to be imobile, he has had a few other issues but is gradually feeling a bit better.

He hopes to be well soon and as soon as he is he will travel to see us at LEBA. We wish you a speedy recovery Andy and look forwad to seeing you soon.

Ray Caulfield took a call from the wife of Ray Cattouse, former British Lightweight Champion, Ray and his wife Shirley are now living on the South Coast and Ray needed to go into a care home for a short spell, Ray Caulfield called me to ask if I could contact Brighton EBA to see if they could help as Shirley wasn't happy with the home that Ray was going into to.

I did contact Baron Noonan who did his best to help, thank you Baron, Baron did explain that the area that Ray and Shirley live in now is better served by Hastings EBA.

I then called Dave Harris who offered to look into the situation and apparently all is OK now, well done Dave, I do know that Shirley is now happy.

Ray Cattouse had 31 fights losing only 2, one of those losses was an attempt at the European Title.

Its always good to hear from Terry Bay, he manages to get around to visit many members and keeps in touch with many more. He tells me that Bernie Khan is back in hospital and that he hopes to visit him this day, Monday 25th, Stephen Powell was hoping to go with Terry to see Bernie (who wants to go home) and be with his son. Terry also tells me that his brother and fellow member Albert hasn't been to well of late following a hip operation, it caused him to have a fall which he is starting to get over now.

We all wish you well mate and get well soon Albert.



Dave with Inna in warmer times.



Albert with his book from Eddie

I was pleased to have a chat with Michael Koritsas and Alan Groves...(big Al) who have both been keeping me up to date with the condition of Dave Power who has been severely suffering with a hernia as reported at last months meeting, the doctors wont operate on him as they are concerned that his heart is not strong enough.

He has been in serious pain and in the week he went for an eye test but had to turn back as his hernia popped out but he made it back home, a couple of days ago he was transferred by ambulance to hospital, the hernia was pushed back and he was sent back home, he was prescribed morphine for his pain...he is a toughen!!!

I tried to call him today but no answer, then Inna called me and said that he was asleep or resting.

David did call me back yesterday and run through the story, he is suffering with this hernia which keeps popping out and has to be pushed back in sometimes taking a couple of hours to do so.

Of course we wish you well Dave and hope that you can have the op soon to put you right and back on your feet.

We wish you well Dave and look forward to your return. God bless and stay safe. I called Joan Carol today, I hadn't had a chat with her for some time and I am pleased to say that she is well and sounds in good form.... Not so for Albert though, he had a fall in the care home that he was at and unfortunately he broke a leg and was obviously put in hospital.

On his discharge he was sent to a care home in Bromley and Joan tells me it's a really lovely home, for one it is nearer for her to make visits and she tells me that they wait hand and foot on him and he loves it.

I did tell Joan that myself and my wife will look forward to visiting him as he is nearer for us as well. As I said Joan is good as well and I checked that she doesn't want for anything, she has family not too far from her and they are regular visitors.

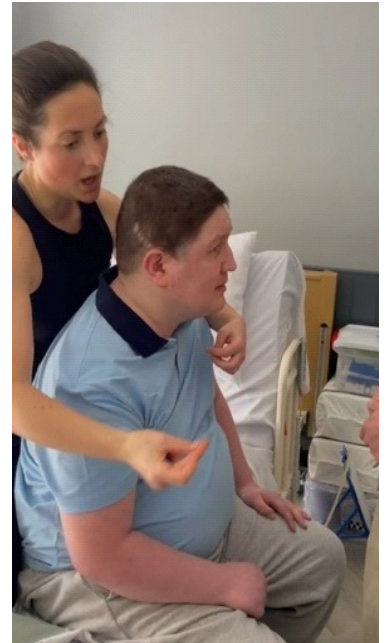
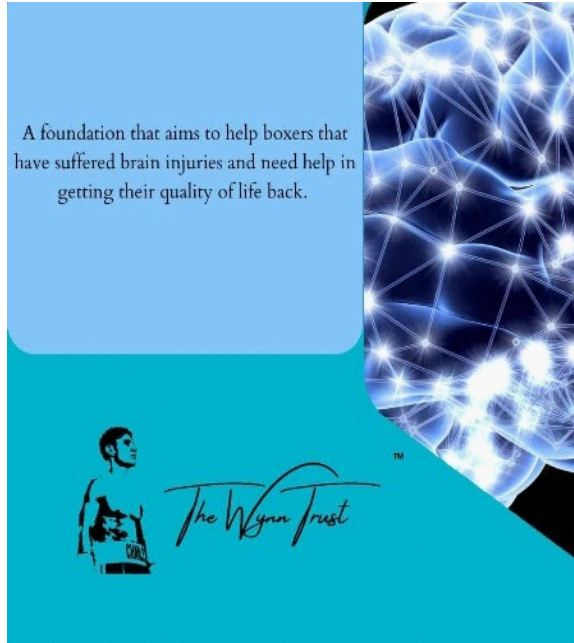


Stephen Powell, Alan and Terry Bay Joan and Albert

Well.... a late decision to change the venue sent Terry Bay and Stephen Powell to visit Alan Docker as seen above, they said they will visit Bernie soon. Alan looks in great form I'm pleased to say and that he was talking well and recognised both of them, what a smashing gesture you two, well done. Lovely man Alan...God Bless.

I am very pleased to let you know that Terry and Debbie Marsh called in to see Charlie Wynn a few days back, Charlies Mum and Dad were really pleased and I think a trip to Essex is being planned and I am hoping to arrange the same with Tina and Ian (Charlies Mum and Dad) to get Charlie and a few of his friends to visit LEBA.

Charlie is slowly getting better and it is noticeable.... Keep it up Charlie... from us at LEBA.



Nothing more to add people just enjoy the day but above all
“Keep Safe”



Bob getting a “Playful Left Hook” from Michael

A weekend at Loughborough University

By Dave Hull

On the weekend commencing 23rd March, I was invited to the pinnacle of sporting excellence, Loughborough University by England Boxing, to attempt to upgrade from a “B” grade official to an “A” grade official to undertake Judging and time keeping at the highest National level.

My judging and timekeeping would be assessed at the National semi finals and Finals of the Junior Championships so the pressure would be on.

I drove up on Friday night, revised for a couple of hours, before setting my alarm for 06.30 to be at breakfast for 7.00am.

Day 1. We were at the venue for 08.30 and sat through a seminar detailing what was expected of us. This included how we sat, who we looked at, what was the correct attire and an oversight to the exams we would be sitting the next day.

I was thinking “what have you gotten yourself involved with this for Dave”?

However, walking into the venue was fantastic, seeing the way the England boxing officials had organised the hall was simply breathtaking and seeing the 3 boxing rings side by side, it was like a military set up.



All 3 rings ready for action.

Tables for photography, officials, live streaming cameras, catering monitors etc and of course, tables for the official assessors placed right behind us!

Before the boxing commenced there was a stern briefing as to what was expected of us all and before we knew it we were in position and awaiting the 1st bell.

24 bouts later the first day was over and we headed back to our hotel for a well deserved meal, then back to the room for more revision.

Day 2 Much of the same, however, before we took our positions at ringside, we had the small issue of an exam to take. This was to test our knowledge on the rules and regulations of the amateur game and the terminology / hand signals and verbal orders you need to know regarding interaction with the referee during the bout. They gave us an hour to complete 55 questions and I smashed it in the time of 59 mins and 50 seconds.

We awaited our results and thankfully we all reached the pass rate of 85%. Next.... Back to ringside. 18 bouts later it was all over. Newly crowned National champions in all weight categories, male and female. Well done to all the boxers who took part over this stressful weekend.

Did I pass? they wouldn't tell us on the day, and we all had to wait for a conformation email, which I received on the Monday afternoon. **YES!!!**



Would I go through it all again?... NEVER!!!!!!!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & DONATIONS

RAFFLE DONATIONS

George Masters, Barbara O'Sullivan, Kirsty Nisbett
John Powell Pat Gavin and Ray Caulfield

DONATIONS

Patsy Barrett, Tom Barrett and Peter Hewitt

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARCH SECONDS OUT

Michael Lordan, Dean Fardell & Bob Cheeseman



Date of Next Meeting

5th May 2024

April Birthdays

1st GARY HUDSPETH, MAJA EWING 4th MICHAEL ANTHONY
6th COLIN HART 8th IVOR JONES 9th LEE BEAVIS 12th DAVE POTTON,
GEORGE SMITH, JOHN BEECROFT, BILLY SCHWER 13th MICK BLAKE
16th HARRY HOLLAND 18th STAN KENNEDY 20th HARRY SCOTT
PETER KENT 22nd DAVID CLARKE, FRANCIS WARREN
23rd JENNIFER BLACK 24th JASON BEARD, KATHY MURDOCH
25th TERRY HUSSEY, 27th RICKY PORTER 30th ALBY-JAMES SMITH



TRIBUTE

to

John Conteh MBE

Sunday 20th October 2024

Celebrating 50 years since John won his
WBC World Light Heavyweight Title
London October 1st 1974

Tribute Luncheon 12.00 till 17.00
Connaught Rooms

Great Queen Street, Holborn LONDON WC2B 5DA

An enjoyable Lunch with an afternoon of entertainment from
Sporting Personalities and Boxing Champions

Tickets - £125 inclusive Available from
Scott Ewing - sewing@ewinglaw.co.uk
Ray Caulfield - raycaulfield@londonexboxers.org.uk

